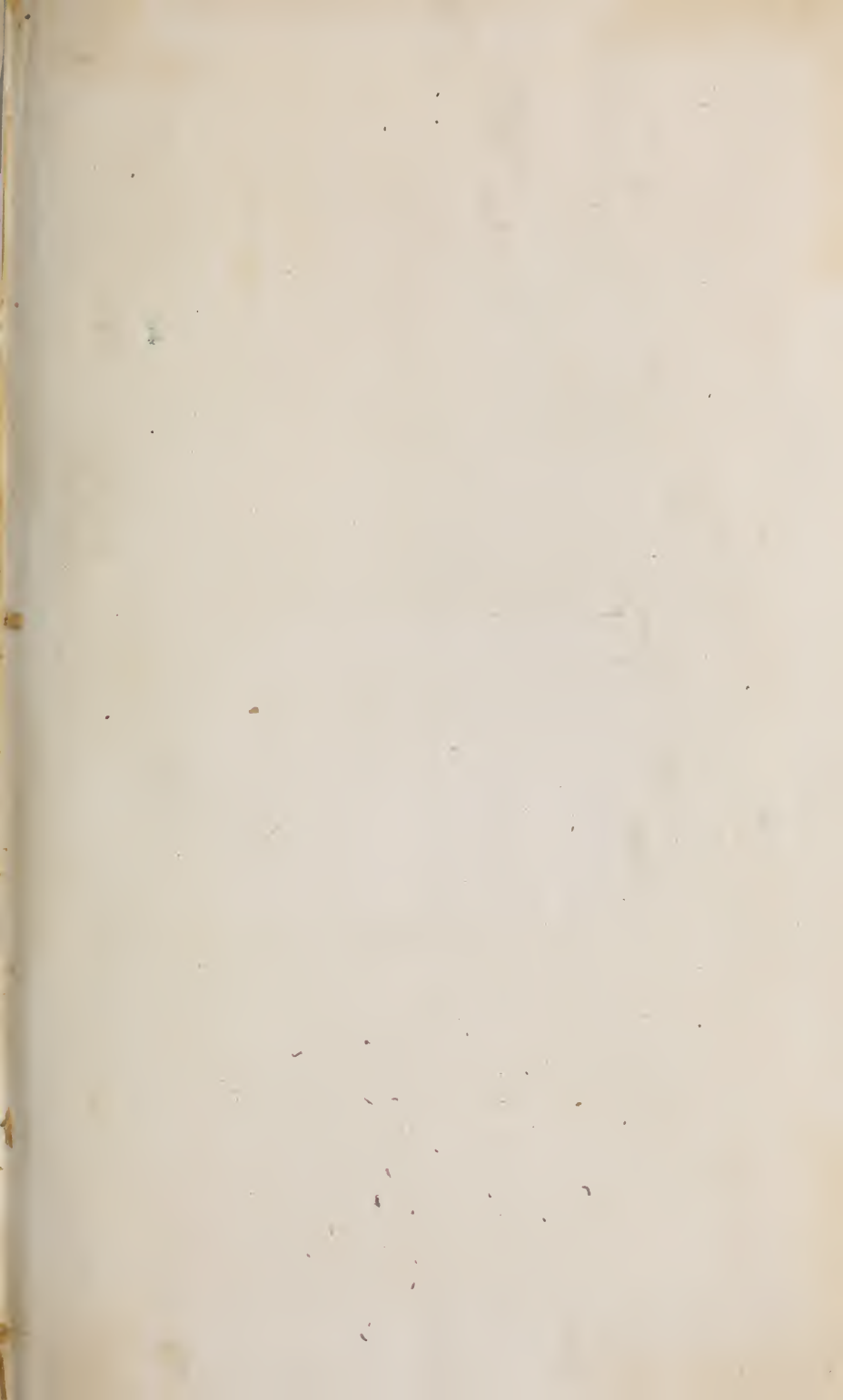


85-2

13

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.	
Princeton, N. J. 49-4-1	
Case, Date	I
Shelf, Section	7
Book, No.	

5CC
8629





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2015

THE
AFRICAN REPOSITORY.

VOL. XXIX.]

WASHINGTON, APRIL, 1853.

[No. 4.

Liberia as it is.

BY AN ACCIDENTAL VISITOR.

OUR readers will remember, that in our number for December last we published a letter from Dr. Roberts, in which he alludes to the arrival at Monrovia of the Steamer Fanny, from New Orleans, with a large number of passengers, bound for California. While the steamer lay at anchor in the roadstead off Monrovia, some ten or twelve days, some of the passengers frequently visited the town, and were enabled to observe the condition of affairs in the little metropolis, and to judge from personal observations, of the general prospects of the citizens of Liberia. After having left Monrovia, one of the passengers of the Fanny, *Mr. E. Schrack*, formerly of Doaksville, Choctaw Nation, wrote to H. B. Hadden, Esq., of that place, giving among other incidents of the voyage, a very interesting, impartial, and of course disinterested account of matters and things, as he found them in Liberia. Through the

kindness of a friend, we are enabled to lay this part of Mr. Schrack's letter before our readers, as follows:

“Monrovia is the principal seaport of the Republic of Liberia, which was founded by the United States Colonization Society, but is now an independent Republic. Its independence has been acknowledged by the governments of England, France, Prussia and Brazil. This young Republic has been moddled after ours, and founded upon the principles of right, and is governed and controlled under the strengthening and prospering influence of righteousness. Her flag is that of the lone star of Liberia, with stripes like those of our beloved flag of America, and she holds a position, convincing to the white man, who may be privileged to visit her, that black men possess *some* ideas of the civil and religious rights of man; the rights of self-government and of conscience, and that he prizes liberty too much to suffer it to be enjoyed only by white men. This is the country for the black man.

I hope all the colored people may eventually be sent here to help build up this Republic, which must

in time become great among the nations of the earth. The present generation has some men in it that would be a credit to any white community, while the rising generation of boys and girls is being duly prepared to forward their great destiny. The people are now enjoying freedom under their own *coffee* and palm trees, surrounded by a country of unbounded staple resources and unequalled natural wealth. They live in comfort that would be envied by many white men. Though the country is healthy, yet strangers almost invariably go through a process of acclimation which is about as severe in the hands of their experienced physicians, as our fever and ague. Besides many churches of the denominations of Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist and Episcopalian: there is scarcely a house where the family altar is not raised, and all these are exerting a powerful influence over the rude beings around them, and helping toward the accomplishing of the good purposes of missionary labor. This people appear to be raised up for the express purpose of spreading light over poor benighted Africa, and to reflect rays of morality and religion that will penetrate their land and cause their degraded brethren to renounce the worship of beasts, and look through nature up to nature's God, to him who is a light to lighten the Gentiles, and learn to worship him.

Many of them believe that the Abolitionists are riveting the fetters of slavery tighter on their brethren in many of the states, but good often comes out of that which we look upon as evil.

In the enslaving of a portion of the African people, in the midst of so highly enlightened a nation as our own, I believe that God used

the means which will finally result in the christianization of this whole people. They are very grateful to the missionaries in the States for their help toward sending the Gospel to Africa; and many with whom I conversed were delighted when I mentioned the names of Mr. Kingsbury, Wright, Byington and Hotchkin, with whose names they had become familiar through the missionary reports. I spoke to them of these men, and also of many of my Choctaw friends, whom I shall never forget.

They have good schools and institutions for the attainment of literary and useful knowledge. Bible Societies—a Lodge of Free Masons and Odd Fellows, and a Division of the Sons of Temperance. Drunkenness is looked upon as very disgraceful, and is seldom seen amongst them; and the selling of rum, as a mean, low occupation; though it is not prohibited by law. The whole white population consists of a few missionaries, a *chargé de affaires* from Brazil, and six persons who stopped from our ship. I had the pleasure of uniting with the Methodists and Presbyterians in public worship on several occasions, and also of assembling in the private circle of many families around the family altar, and I enjoyed myself much more than I expected to do amongst black people. They behave so much like well bred white people, that while among them one forgets all about the prejudices of color, and they conduct themselves so well and courteously that they receive the credit from visitors, of being a polite, clever and hospitable people. The sea-port of Monrovia has a population of about fifteen hundred, so near as I can learn."

Yours very truly,
SAMUEL MORRISON.

Letter from a Colored Man in Baltimore.

BALTIMORE,
January 19, 1853.

To the Secretary of the A. C. S.

SIR: I perceive that this Society is progressing very rapidly, and that many are being sent to that country to which every colored man looks forward, as being his or his children's future home; and I think from observation, that there should be more active measures taken in this country to instruct my people in the *mechanical arts*, that when they arrive in the land of promise, they

may be able to impart every useful pursuit to the rising generations. If these things are rightly conducted, I feel satisfied that my people may yet be redeemed. I hope that the day is not far distant when we may claim a name among the nations of the earth.

Which request I hope will be kindly received as coming from one of the down-trodden of the African race.

Yours very respectfully,
L. W.

Letter from Elias G. Jones.

THE following letter from Elias G. Jones will be read with much interest by the friends of Liberia and of colonization. The writer was the agent for the New York and Liberia Emigration and Agricultural Association. His noble mission was cut suddenly short by his death from drowning while engaged in the duties upon which he was sent. This letter has been a long time on its way to this country.

Voyage in the Ralph Cross—The Fishtown Difficulties—Monrovia—The Bassa Country—Emigrants—Agricultural Products.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.

OFF BASSA COVE, Liberia, Africa,
Thursday, July 1, 1852.

According to promise, I now avail myself of the opportunity which is offered me of forwarding this letter to you, in order to give you some facts and the impression made on me by this "Republic."

We, that is the *Ralph Cross*, sailed from Hampton Roads on the afternoon of May 6, 1852, and held nearly a due east course, until we reached the longitude of 30° 40'; we then ran down and made the mouth of the Galinas River on the morning

of Wednesday, June 9, 1852. We had considerable fine weather and some calms, but upon the whole we enjoyed a delightful passage. We had lots of sea-sickness, measles and mumps, during our passage, but only one death, which was that of a child, who died on the morning of Thursday, May 20, and was buried in Lon. 37 40 West, Lat. 36 40 North. This child died of no sickness contracted on shipboard, but of some hereditary malady. We made Cape Montserado on the evening of June 12, making our passage from cape to cape in thirty-seven days and ten hours.

I think it unnecessary to describe the peculiarities of Africa, as they are sufficiently known already. Then suffice to say that, as is usual in such cases, the Kroomen boarded us in swarms early on Sunday morning, offering their services for acceptance. We employed six of them for rowing us on shore, and then proceeded up to look after the consignee of the vessel. We first learned that President Roberts had gone in the Government vessel *Lark* for Madeira, en route for England, purposely, as we subsequently learnt,

to give the true version of the late difficulties with her Britannic Majesty's Consul residing at Monrovia.

You will therefore be anxious to know the true nature of those difficulties of which I speak, and I will now proceed to give them to you. It appears (from what Vice-President Williams says) that the late war had between the Fishmen (of or near Fishtown) and Liberians was instigated by an English trader named Lawrence, who advised the natives that "if they, the natives, would dispossess the Liberians of Fishtown, Buchanan and Tradetown, he, Lawrence, would be able to sell them goods much cheaper than he had heretofore done;" he said in effect that the duties levied on his goods by the Liberian Government were the cause of his goods being so dear, and he further said that the Liberian Government had not the means of protecting itself, and therefore would be an easy victim; that Great Britain and the United States intended to withdraw their friendship from the said Liberians, which would make the victory the more sure; and it was under these representations that they went to war. The natives, as we know, were defeated with great loss, so it became necessary for their aider and abettor, Lawrence, to get out of the Republic as soon as possible, as his projects were known to the Liberian authorities, who would have visited him with signal punishment. It became therefore his first business to secure the favorable interposition of Consul Hanson, who is said to have connived at his escape; in fact, it is known that through his directions Lawrence secured his passage on a British man-of-war for England. The Liberians, justly incensed against the high-handed conduct of Consul Hanson, made known their

feelings through the press, and also evinced the desire that his exequatur should be withdrawn. Then it appears that Hanson himself became anxious for his safety, which was entirely unnecessary; he therefore represented to the "Admiral of the British Squadron" that he had every reason to believe that his life was in danger, under which representation the "Admiral" was induced to take him home; and it is thought that he will endeavor to misrepresent the affair. The strangest fact, however, connected with this affair, is the fact that this Lawrence has a wife living in Edina, one of the very places he intended to destroy, and she is yet living there. It is strange to see the effect that Liberia has produced on the emigrants; men who, ten years ago, occupied the most menial positions, and scarcely appeared to have had sense enough for that, are now doing well, and possess an average share of good common sense. Every man, woman and child with whom I have met declares that there is no inducement which would make them return to the United States. I find that the dissatisfaction evinced is entirely with persons when they first come, and that is owing to their sickness, which weakens and generally leaves them in a dejected condition; and that even is only common to persons of no means, and who had been accustomed to having some one else to provide mentally for them; but let them stay here eighteen months (as I am informed by those who have experienced such lassitude) and no manner of persuasion can induce them to return. I have seen as yet very little of Monrovia, as we only stopped there one day. On my return, however, I will visit all the adjacent settlements, both of Liberians and natives.

I have made quite an excursion into the country here, and must say that, for natural advantages (the Bassa Cove Bar excepted) the Bassa country stands equal to any that I have ever seen. The soil is immensely rich, well watered and timbered. The country is hilly at first; the soil has the appearance of a mixture of the black mole clay and crushed stone. It is a common thing among the farming Liberians to have on their farms sugar-cane (from one extremity to the other) 24 feet in length, of equal proportions—that is, the joints for length, compactness and thickness, correspond with the length of the cane. I cut six or seven which measured 26 feet in length, and nine inches in circumference, the joints of which measured in length nine to ten inches; this cane I cut from the farm of a Mr. Jackson, living in Bexley, on the St. John River. The heat corresponds with that of Mexico—in fact, had I not known that I was in Africa I should have been persuaded that I was in the neighborhood of Monterey, Mexico. The country generally on the coast presents a mountainous interior. The N. J. Purchase is in a mountainous region; it comprises a part of the Saddle mountains, or those mountains which the Gee people inhabit. I believe that the country wants only capital and men to make it one of the most desirable countries under heaven. Our agent has selected the St. Paul's River, and has erected several houses, three of which are ready for reception. He speaks in high terms of that country, and thinks that the acclimation there will be easy; but of that I at present have no knowledge.

The emigrants we brought out are all highly delighted with their choice—but I had rather have them say so

eight months hence. However, no one can help being delighted with the country's appearance. I have seen growing here the coffee, the sugar cane, the arrow root, the ginger, cotton, indigo, rice, indian corn, guinea corn, sweet potatoes, cassada, limes, oranges, plaintains, sour-sop, mangoe plums, the papaw, lemons, watermelons, the cocoanut, the tamarind, the sweet-sop, the pomegranate, the okra, the banana, the African cherry, the African peach, the sorrel, the granadilla, the rose-apple. I see, however, that the rice is no rightly cultivated, neither is the cotton, and, therefore, it does not grow as luxuriant as it does in the Carolinas, but my word for it, it can be raised in the greatest abundance. Everybody here appears happy, excepting some of them who recently arrived here. I heard considerable complaining among some of them, as regarded getting necessary (State's) nourishment, but they, I hope, will soon be over it. The truth is, the recent war in their immediate neighborhood has made salt provisions, &c., scarce—but who can calculate against such mishaps! They have just commenced to re-occupy Fish-town, and I hope the Liberians have this time taught the natives the consequences of their temerity. We hear it currently reported here, (I believe it comes from the natives) that an Englishman, named Townley, is attempting the slave trade; we also hear of a slaver hovering round the Gallinas—how true this is I have no means of knowing. This Townley, however, has already made himself obnoxious with the Liberians, in trying to smuggle in his goods clear of duty. He is now under arrest at this place for similar attempts at fraud. He is the consignee of an English trader, and he keeps his

cutter all the time off Bassa bar, for I suppose his own convenience. We go from here to Cape Palmas, and will then return to Monrovia, so I expect to bring the next news of this future "African Empire."—I send this by the way of England, if

it is successful in reaching the steamer Sierra Leone, which steams off on the 16th inst.

ELIAS G. JONES,

Agent for the New York and Liberia Emigration and Agricultural Association.

Central Africa.—Letter from Rev. J. T. Bowen.

YORUBA.

THE Yoruba country begins about 40 miles from the sea and reaches nearly to the Niger. It is divided among various tribes who speak the same language. The number of people who speak the Yoruba tongue, is probably one million. They are decidedly simple and eastern in their manners, but the women are neither veiled, nor secluded, according to the silly custom which prevails in Asia. They are the traders of the country, while the men are the farmers, weavers and mechanics. The Yorubas are so far superior to the coast people in civilization and good sense, that if I had never been among the hateful tribes on the seaboard, I should pronounce many things which I have read about them a gross slander on the African character.

Yoruba has about a dozen cities containing from 20,000 to 60,000 people each, while Illorin probably contains 100,000 or more. Besides these, there are numerous villages and towns, varying from 500 to 10,000 inhabitants. The first of the large cities is Abbeokuta, about 60 geographical miles from the sea, and nearly 80 miles by the road. From this place there are several routes to the interior. The most direct one to Haiisa is that which goes north to Aberrekodo 1 day, to Biollorunpella 1, to Awage 1, to Oke-Eho 1, to Oke-Amoh 1, to

Ishakki 2, to Ighoho 2, to Ikishi 1, and thence to Kaiama. (Ki a ma,) Busa, Yauri, &c.

In Yoruba, the Kong mountains are flattened down into table lands, the terraces of which, from 10 to 15 miles, are successively more elevated as we proceed interior from the coast. These terraces are separated by rugged granite hills, few of which, if any, attain a greater height from the base, than 1000 feet. Their summits however are twice that height above the sea when we reach the middle parts of the country. Seven days from the coast, near Awage, is a large rock whose head is often covered with morning clouds. The village of Ado is on the summit of this steep, naked rock. Nearly a day farther on, are the highest and broadest hills I have seen. Not far from these, in a bed of a little river, is the only trap rock which I have found in this region of granite.

The table lands are mostly open and grassy, like prairies, with mimosas, butter trees, palms, &c., left at intervals by those who formerly cultivated the soil. In some places I have seen beautiful open woodland, which offered good pasturage. The scenery is often enchanting, especially about the hills. The intervening level lands are diversified by little groves and narrow lines of timber land on streams.

Wild animals abound even within a few miles of populous towns, for

the people have no rifles. Elephants are not uncommon, leopards and buffaloes frequent, lions more rare. The woods and prairies are full of antelopes, some of which are no larger than fawns, and others are nearly equal to cows. Every body assures me that the unfrequented table lands afford a few unicorns. They are said to be as large as a small horse, shaped something like an antelope, and with one horn in the forehead. The last unicorn killed was about two years ago. I have seen one of the horns. It was about 18 inches long, rather slender, a little curved, blackish, with grooves and rings running round it, except about 3 inches of the sharp point, which was smooth. I have offered a reward for the skull of a unicorn with the horn or its pith attached. Till I see this, I must suspect that the unicorn of Africa,

like the horned snake of America, is a child of the imagination.

I am almost ready to say, that the climate of Yoruba is decidedly healthy, even to white people. I have traveled hundreds of miles, often on foot, for I have lost two horses, and the third is half useless. I have waded rivers, have been exposed to sun and rain, have slept with no covering but my blanket in open prairies and damp woods, and though I have had several attacks of ague, yet I have enjoyed much excellent health, insomuch that the people of far distant towns have voluntarily given me the name of "Allaghara," the strong man. The blessing is from God, but it shows that this climate is not so different from other parts of the world after all. The climate is no excuse for letting these people die without hearing of the Saviour.

[From the American Missionary.]

Observations in Africa.

At the request of a friend interested in Africa and its missions, Mrs. Arnold has written the result of her observations, during her residence of about eighteen months at Sierra Leone. We have been permitted to take from these papers some extracts, which we think will interest the readers of the *Missionary*. If an occasional German idiom should be seen, it ought to be recollected that it is only about two years since the writer commenced to speak the English language:

"When parting from you, after a short interview, you asked me to write you a description of Africa, telling me that an account by one with whom you were personally acquainted would be of greater interest than that of an unknown writer.

"I am able to write only about Sierra Leone, where I have spent eighteen months at different stations. The inhabitants consist of liberated slaves and their children. Though subject to English laws, yet you will find the different tribes in their original costumes, characters, and languages, as when among their country people.

"The face of the country, covered with stately trees, appears to a European uncommonly beautiful and attractive. Carried through the country by the natives—sometimes through brooks and forests, and sometimes up the mountains, so steep that one can scarcely imagine how the natives can carry their burden—his eye rests upon the heights, and then traces the brooks that start from them, swelling in the rainy

season to rushing rivers. Or when borne through the villages, whose inhabitants run to welcome the palanquin with plays and songs, one recognizes in them the true children of nature.

“To become acquainted with the African character, neither churches nor schools are suitable places; it is to be done by visiting their own houses, or walking with them. I being under no obligation to any society, could spend much time among the people; and having by times the charge of a sewing school, had the best opportunity of learning their ways.

“Like those following our Saviour and his apostles from one place to another, not considering their wants or business, so follow these Africans from one street to another, those in whom they are interested, and nothing is more easy than to excite their feelings. When passing at evening through the village, if I began to talk to one individual, I was soon surrounded by a crowd. I have spent the most pleasant hours of my life in a large yard at our house, where, after sunset, many came together begging me to tell them something, for which they would reward me with stories and songs. They have great respect for Europeans; and it often astonished me that a crowd of men would obey immediately, when they were gathered together in our kitchen or yard, and I told them to leave the place. I never had fear when walking some miles by moonlight, or even in a dark night.

“The Africans, like the people of Palestine, are fond of parables, and they seldom relate any thing without doing it in this way, accompanied with many gestures. Their diseases are lunacy, leprosy, blindness, palsy, and that called sun-stroke.

“When a captured slave vessel lands, there is great rejoicing among the inhabitants of the colony; and people of every tribe are anxiously looking for their countrymen. Amid a confusion of languages like that of Babel, the chains are loosed from the captives, and they are taken to the Government House, where they receive country clothes, and daily their pence to buy their food, consisting chiefly of rice, foofoo, yams, and fish. Teachers daily visit their schools to instruct them in the English language, wherein their rapid progress astonishes every stranger.

“It seems strange to me that the majority of the people here (America) suppose the African race almost without intellect, whilst every one becoming acquainted with them will be convinced of their mental capacity, which very often excels that of our uneducated people. They are apt in judging different characters, and watch the white people with a sly, cunning eye; while their deception is so complete, that even those who are the longest experienced in their ways are often deceived by them. Carried away by natural enthusiasm, they will give every laborer at first the highest encouragement; but the more his hopes rise with their professions, the deeper will be the disappointment. The missionaries' records could give an account of many conversions every quarter, but if they search for the fruit in the life, they are reminded of the parable of the fig tree. The hope of the missionaries is, that after civilization a new generation will bring forth the fruit of Christianity more fully, and that the Lord, in his wise judgment will receive many whom we cannot here recognize as belonging to his people.

“In the colony are found 180 different languages, spoken by captives from different tribes. Mr. Kolle, a

German linguist, sent out by the English Society, has obtained a knowledge of *Vie* within the last four years, and has written a grammar in this language, has translated parts of the Bible, and has made a collection of more than one hundred concrete substances in all the other languages spoken at Sierra Leone. Mr. Schmidt, also a German, has acquired the Timanne, in which he preaches, and into which he has translated many parts of the New Testament.

“The Kroomen are Mohammedans, and are gay, cheerful, talkative, noisy, and have a great talent for mimicry. They are chiefly sailors, laborers, and traders, and allow themselves no other luxury than a little tobacco, being contented with the barest necessities. After having spent one and a half or two years at the colony, the Krooman returns home with his wealth. A portion he gives to the headman of his town, not forgetting his relatives and friends, if he has only a leaf of tobacco for each. His mother, if living, receives a large present, and what remains he gives to his father to buy him a wife. The father obtains a wife for him, and after he has spent some months of ease and pleasure he leaves again for the colony. He is proud of being acquainted with ‘white men’s fashion,’ and he frequently takes young boys as apprentices in his business, who pay him a part of their earnings for his trouble.

“The Mohammedan races are very superior in education to all other Africans, and are so temperate that they will not wear a garment, if a single drop of wine had fallen on it, until it was washed. In the love of tobacco they join all the other tribes, but deny themselves all other luxuries, and expect to gain heaven for it. I heard once a Mohammedan say to another, whilst they were looking at a European driving in a carriage, ‘Look, Daddy, that’s white man’s heaven.’ I asked him what he meant. His answer was, ‘Mohammedan’s heaven yonder,’ pointing to the skies; ‘but white man’s heaven here below.’ Strictly observing the commandments of the Koran, they spend at sunrise and sunset a long time in prayer. They have a great abhorrence of idols. Their theology is, ‘Obedience leads to the way of heaven, fastings and self-denial give rapid progress, and alms open the door.’ Their adherent self-righteousness is the greatest obstacle to their conversion. This will show you without further remarks, the tribes of Africa are interesting, but vary much in character.

“One trait is common amongst them—that is, their great cruelty. They take delight in tormenting such animals as goats, cats, &c., by cutting off their ears, tails, or legs. But let me be silent about their way of exercising this feeling toward their wives and children.”

[From the Journal of Commerce.]

Negro Law of Illinois.

If any fugitive slaves should hereafter be arrested in Illinois, they are likely to be those already there, and not new arrivals, whether by the underground railroad or otherwise.

Following the example of Indiana, the Legislature of the first mentioned State have just passed a law, prohibiting negroes, whether bond or free, from coming or being brought

within its limits, except for the purpose of transit from one State of this Union to another. The law is entitled "An Act to prevent the Emigration of Free Negroes into this State," and went into operation on the 12th ult. The principal sections are as follows:—

"SEC. 1. *Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly,* That if any person or persons shall bring, or cause to be brought into this State, any negro or mulatto slave, whether said slave is set free or not, he or they shall be liable to an indictment, and upon conviction thereof, be fined for every such negro or mulatto, a sum not less than one hundred dollars, nor more than five hundred dollars, and imprisoned in the county jail not more than one year, and shall stand committed until said fine and costs are paid.

SEC. 2. When an indictment shall be found against any person or persons, who are not residents of the State, it shall be the duty of the court before whom said indictment is pending, upon affidavit being made and filed in said court by the prosecuting attorney, or any other creditable witness, setting forth the non residence of said defendant, and showing the probable residence of said defendant, to notify the Governor of this State, by causing the clerk of said court to transmit to the office of the Secretary of State a certified copy of said indictment and affidavit, and it shall be the duty of the Governor upon the receipt of said copies, to appoint some suitable person to arrest such defendant or defendants in whatever State or county he or they may be found, and to commit him or them to the jail of the county in which said indictment is pending—there to remain and answer said indictment,

and be otherwise dealt with in accordance with this act. And it shall be the duty of the Governor to issue all necessary requisitions, writs and papers to the Governor or other executive officer of the State, territory, or province, where such defendant or defendants may be found: *Provided*, That this section shall not be construed so as to effect persons or slaves *bona fide* traveling through this State, from and to, any other State in the United States.

SEC. 3. If any negro or mulatto, bond or free, shall come into this State, and remain ten days, with the evident intention of residing in the same, every such negro or mulatto shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and for the first offence shall be fined the sum of fifty dollars, to be recovered before any justice of the peace, in the county where said negro or mulatto may be found. Said proceeding shall be in the name of the people of the State of Illinois, and shall be tried by a jury of twelve men. The person making the information or complaint, shall not be a competent witness upon said trial.

SEC. 4. If said negro or mulatto shall be found guilty, and the fine assessed be not paid forthwith to the justice of the peace, before whom said proceeding was had, it shall be the duty of said justice to commit said negro or mulatto to the custody of the sheriff of said county, or otherwise keep him, her or them in custody; and said justice shall forthwith advertise said negro or mulatto, by posting up notices thereof in at least three of the most public places in that district, which said notices shall be posted up ten days, and on the day, and at the time and place mentioned in said advertisement, the said justice shall at public auction proceed to sell said negro or mu-

latto, to any person or persons, who will pay said fine and costs, for the shortest time; and said purchaser shall have the right to compel said negro or mulatto to work for, and serve out said time, and he shall furnish said negro or mulatto with comfortable food, clothing, and lodging during said servitude.

SEC. 5. If said negro or mulatto, shall not within ten days after the expiration of his, her or their term of service, as aforesaid, leave the State, he, she or they, shall be liable to a second prosecution, in which the penalty to be inflicted, shall be one hundred dollars, and so on for every subsequent offence, the penalty shall be increased fifty dollars over and above the last penalty inflicted. and the same proceedings shall be had in each case as is provided for in the preceding sections for the first offence.

[Section 6 gives to the negro the right of appeal within five days on certain conditions. Sec. 7th gives half the fine to the complainant, while the other half is to be applied for the benefit of the poor.]

SEC. 8. If after any negro or mulatto shall have been arrested under the provisions of this act, any person or persons shall claim any such negro or mulatto as a slave, the owner by himself or agent shall have right, by giving reasonable notice to the officer or person having the custody of said negro or mulatto, to appear before the justice of the peace before whom said negro or mulatto shall have been arrested, and prove his or their right to the custody of said negro or mulatto as a slave, and if said justice of the peace shall, after hearing the evidence, be satisfied that the person or persons claiming said negro or mulatto, is the owner of, and entitled to the custody of said negro or mulatto in accordance with

the laws of the United States passed upon this subject, he shall upon the owner or agent paying all costs up to the time of claiming said negro or mulatto, and the costs of proving the same, and also the balance of the fine remaining unpaid, give to said owner a certificate of said facts, and said owner or agent so claiming, shall have a right to take and remove said slave out of this State.

SEC. 9. If any justice of the peace shall refuse to issue any writ or process necessary for the arrest and prosecution of any negro or mulatto, under the provisions of this act, upon complaint being made before said justice by any resident of his county, and his fees for said service being tendered him, he shall be deemed guilty of non-feasance in office, and upon conviction thereof punished accordingly, and in all cases where the jury find for the negro or mulatto, or that he, she, or they, are not guilty under the provisions of this act, the said justice of the peace shall proceed to render judgment against the prosecuting witness, or persons making the complaint, and shall collect the same as other judgments: *Provided*, That said prosecuting witness or person making said complaint in case judgment is rendered against him, shall have a right to take an appeal to the circuit court, as is provided for in this act in case said negro or mulatto is found guilty.

SEC. 10. Every person who shall have one-fourth negro blood shall be deemed a mulatto.

SEC. 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage. Approved Feb. 12, 1853."

—
This law is a natural fruit of the Abolition extravagance which has been raging over the country for some years past. One extreme

follows another. On the passage of the Act in the Senate, Mr. Judd moved that the title should be so amended as to read "An Act to establish perpetual Slavery in this State." But he soon found himself in a minority. The Chicago Tribune (Soil) comforts itself that the law will ere long be repealed. We are not so sure of it. The Indiana law is evidently popular among the people of that State, and although it has been some time in operation no attempt, that we have heard of, has been made to repeal it. If any has been made, it has been made in vain.

The Chicago Free Press, (edited by "Long John" Wentworth,) proposes a resort to the higher law of rebellion; or rather, predicts that it will be resorted to. Says the Press:—

"In the first place, we regard the law as unconstitutional. Almost every section of it bears that fact prominently upon its face. We do not believe there is a Judge within the state but will so decide, should any attempt be made to enforce the law. In northern Illinois it will be a dead letter under any and every circumstance; and we very much doubt whether such will not be the case in most of the counties in the southern portions of the state. We presume measures will be taken to test its constitutionality at an early

day, without waiting for the regular operation of the law."

But suppose the Court decide that the law is Constitutional; what then? According to the Free Press, the result will be the same; as the law "will be a dead letter under any and every circumstance." We shall see. Some recent instances of successful resistance to the laws have encouraged transgressors to think they can rebel with impunity; but we think they will find themselves mistaken in the end, for the people will soon perceive that they must either have laws or anarchy, and that if one law may be trampled under foot with impunity, so may another; and so may all others. The principle is the same in each case; and it is one which, if carried out, would resolve society into its original elements, and deluge the nation with blood.

As to the meaning and force of the law, the Free Press says,—"It prohibits the entrance of free colored persons into the state, under the penalty of being sold into slavery, and authorizes the admission of slaves if brought in or sent by their masters." Or more correctly, it authorizes the transit of slaves *through* the State, on their way, for instance from Kentucky to Missouri; a permission which the geographical position of Illinois renders almost unavoidable.

An African Convert.

AMONG the converts in Abbeokuta is one who formerly bore the name of Olu Walla. He used to be a desperate character, a strong, blustering fellow, bold and insolent, and always in mischief. He lived by plundering others. Sometimes he would walk through the market with some of his gang, and would contrive to overthrow, as if by acci-

dent, a basket or stall, scattering all their contents. During the confusion thus occasioned, and whilst the owner was arguing with him, his fellow-thieves would be busily engaged in pilfering and robbing all around; so that at his appearance amongst them the market people were always alarmed. His presence in the courts of justice was not

more welcome. The elders were overawed by him; and he there did what he liked. For a bribe, Olu Walla would attend any trial, and sit apparently unconcerned in a corner until the sentence was about to be passed on the culprit who had hired his services. Then he would jump up and say—"No, this will never do: if you intend to settle the matter in this way, I object to it, and will carry off the prisoner." He and his gang would then rescue the prisoner and carry him off. Thus this notorious bully was the terror of the city.

Like his countrymen, however, Olu Walla was full of superstition; and thus he was persuaded by some Mohammedan conjurers to go to an adjoining town, where they promised to instruct him in the art of turning grains of Indian corn into cowries—little shells which they use for money. He took with him forty dollars, being all he possessed, and squandered the whole in the vain attempt to learn this wonderful art. Whilst he was absent from Abeokuta, engaged in this pursuit, the missionaries arrived there. Amongst those who came to hear the new doctrine was Olu Walla's wife. The glad tidings were sweet to her ears. When the gospel was preached in the streets and under the trees, she would be there. But on her husband's return she did not dare to tell him what she had heard. When he arrived, and found numbers of his countrymen listening to the preaching from day to day, he also joined them and was greatly astonished at what he heard. He determined to inquire further into the matter. Three separate churches were soon erected, with mud walls, at a cost of about 30*l.* each; and Olu Walla, from time to time, went from one to the other,

and found the different preachers stating exactly the same things, and dwelling upon the great truths of the Bible—such as, the character of God, the evil of sin, the work of Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit. His wife observing the bent of his mind, was especially attentive to him, and said on one occasion, "I should like to go with you to the preaching." He replied, "Well, I will gladly take you there;" and ever afterwards the poor woman joyfully accompanied her husband to the church.

At first Mr. Crowther, the missionary, did not notice him; but after a little time he observed a respectable-looking man always present and always attentive. At length he became a candidate for baptism, joined the class for special instruction, and in due course was baptized. When asked what Christian name he wished to receive, he said, "Matthew;" assigning as a reason that as Matthew had been an extortioner, so he had been worse, and therefore wished to bear his name.

With his new name he has got a new nature. The Holy Spirit has changed his heart; and instead of swaggering through the town as formerly, with his sword at his side, he is now one of the most quiet and peaceable men in the whole place. During the late persecution, when the converts were cruelly treated, no one behaved with more submission and firmness. His wife also distinguished herself during that time of trial. The heathen party compelled her to fall down before an image of the devil, threatening to kill her unless she would worship him as formerly. They forced her to prostrate her body before the idol, but they could not bow down the spirit within her; for, when on her knees, she cried aloud,

before them all, "O devil! I have done with you forever: I worship the true God alone."

Matthew is now one of the most consistent Christians in Abbeokuta,

and is rapidly acquiring the gifts which are needed for instructing his fellow-sinners in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.—*Ch. Miss. Juv. Instructor.*

[Correspondence of the Vermont Chronicle.]

Lecture on Western Africa.

HANOVER,

Feb. 14, 1853.

ON Wednesday evening of last week, Lieut. Colvocoresses of the Navy, delivered to our citizens a lecture on Liberia and the western coast of Africa.

Lieut. C. went out in the Sloop of War Germantown, and after an absence of a year returned in the Porpoise about eight months since. During his cruise he had frequent opportunities of going on shore at Monrovia, Harper, and other points. Of the lecture I do not propose to give any report in detail. It contained much and various interesting information.—But, what made it especially interesting, was that having gone out prejudiced against Colonization and the Society, he returned giving his unqualified testimony in favor of both, and this from personal observation. He went into the houses of the emigrants, over their farms, into their schools, conversed with many individuals, inquired if they were desirous to return the United States, receiving the uniform answer, no. In all the aspects which presented themselves to his view, he was favorably impressed—so much so as to revolutionize his opinions previ-

ously entertained. He fully confirms the statements often made, that Colonization is the most effective means of eradicating the slave trade—vastly superior to the combined influence of squadrons.

This uniform testimony of our naval officers who visit Liberia is worth a great deal. They are less likely to be prejudiced in favor of Colonization than most who visit the colony, and cannot be supposed to be affected by the partisan spirit of those at home.

The instance of Lieut. Colvocoresses is particularly worthy of consideration. He is a Greek, he entered our navy in 1832, he was four years with Capt. Wilkes on the Exploring Expedition, and had in that cruise opportunity to observe many barbarous tribes, and many colonies. These things add weight to his testimony.

At the close of the lecture, at the suggestion of Lt. C., a contribution was taken for the starving inhabitants of Madeira. The lecture being free—a voluntary offering of Lieut. C.—the thanks of the audience were tendered and the meeting adjourned, with evident satisfaction.

J. R.

Negro Exclusion.

THE Ohio State Journal publishes for the information of its readers, a bill introduced into the Senate by Mr. Cushing to prevent the further settlement of blacks and mulattoes

in this State. The bill provides:—Sec. 1st, that from and after the first day of January, 1854, no black or mulatto person not a resident of the State, shall be permitted to set-

tle or reside therein. Sec. 2. That every such person residing in the State, shall prior to 1854, enter his or her name, and the names of their children, in the recorder's office to be registered in a book to be provided for the purpose, for which they shall pay 10 cents to the recorder; who is required to give them a certificate of the registry, if requested, for which they are to pay 25 cents, which certificate shall be taken as evidence that the person so registered is a resident of the State. Sec. 3. Requires parents to register the names of all children born after 1st of January, 1854. Sec. 4. Provides that all such persons found within the State one month after January 1, 1854, whose names are not registered, shall be held to be non-residents and dealt with as such. Sec. 5. Makes it unlawful for black or mulatto persons not residents within the meaning of this law to hold any real estate, and any devised or granted to them to be forfeited to the State of Ohio. Sec. 6. Makes it the duty of prosecuting attorneys to institute suits for the recovery of any real estate, held by such persons, and on its recovery, to send a transcript of it to the Auditor of

State, to be sold by him in the manner now provided for the sale of forfeited land. Sec. 7. Provides that every black or mulatto person who shall violate the provisions of the act shall be deemed guilty of an offence, and on conviction shall be imprisoned in the county jail at hard labor for any term not less than six months; every ten days subsequent residence to be regarded as an additional offence. Sec. 8. Makes it the duty of district assessors at the time of listing the real estate of their respective districts to make a list of blacks and mulattoes and to return the same to the county recorder. Sec. 9. Makes it the duty of the recorder to compare the assessor's returns with the registry in his office, and if he shall find any not registered he shall report the fact to the prosecuting attorney, who shall immediately cause such persons to be arrested and prosecuted for such offence. Sec. 10. Assessors, recorders or prosecuting attorneys failing to perform the duties required of them by this act to be liable to a fine of \$50, and be forever incapable of holding any office of trust or profit within the State of Ohio.

[From the Pioneer, Lebanon, Ind.]

Liberia.

THE interest manifested of late years by the citizens of England and the United States, in colonizing Africa with the emancipated and free colored people of this country, has had the effect to direct to that hitherto unknown interior the attention of scientific and extensive explorations.

Within the last twenty-five years the little Colony of Liberia, which was planted by a generous philanthropy, has progressed rapidly, considering the means invested,

and the dangers and privations encountered by the first settlers, and is now enjoying, as the fruits of those labors, the blessings of a free and independent government. The Slave Trade has by this little Colony, been abolished. Thousands of the natives have been redeemed from barbarism; and, by their system of schools the children of the colonists, as well as those of many of the natives, are receiving instruction in such manner as will fit them for usefulness to their country, and for

mental and social enjoyment themselves.

The idea of social equality between the two races, in the United States, is fast dying away, and the opposition of the free colored population of this country to Liberia and the Colonization Society, is gradually declining; and this fact is giving renewed hope to those who have so long labored in the Colonization cause.

The future of Africa—who will tell it? Here is a land rich in all that tends to worldly wealth. Its unexplored interior presents a field for adventure rich as the treasures to be revealed are marvelous. Why should not the United States lend its aid to restore to the world this barbarous people, and in place of darkness give them light.

[From the Boston Traveler.]

Commerce of Liberia.

ENGLAND, France and Prussia, have acknowledged the independence of Liberia; but the United States Government has hitherto refused to do this. And what has been the result of this course? England, ever watchful for the interests of her commerce, taking advantage of our neglect of our own offspring, has established a line of monthly steamers to Liberia, and is gradually drawing to herself all the commerce of the country; and this is even now no inconsiderable affair. A writer in the National Intelligencer, in endeavouring to stir up our government to the importance of recognizing Liberia's Independence, says, the commerce of Liberia with England is growing beyond all example afforded in other countries, while the United States have less of it now

than they had in 1815. The import of palm oil into England, he says, has grown from 4,700 tons in 1827, to 30,455 tons in 1851. This quantity exceeds by one-half all the pork packed in Cincinnati, if we rate the quantity as high as 200,000 hogs of 250 lbs. each, and it almost equals the whole export of pork, bacon and lard from the United States in 1851; our total exports of "hog products" for that year exceeding the export of palm oil of Africa but little more than three per cent.

But it is not palm oil alone which England covets. The cotton plant is indigenous to Liberia, living from year to year, and England no doubt anticipates the time when her trade in cotton with Liberia shall release her from bondage to our southern market.

Liberia and African Colonization.

IN SENATE, MARCH 3, 1853.

The Senate having under consideration the bill making appropriations for the support of the navy, Mr. MILLER, of New Jersey, submitted the following amendment, viz:

"For equipment, maintenance, and supply of an expedition for the exploration of the interior of Africa, eastward of Liberia, and the ascertaining of the resources of that region, and for the colonization of the free blacks of the United States, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, \$125,000."

Mr. MILLER proceeded to address the Senate. The Secretary of the Navy (said he) addressed a letter to the chairman of the committee on Finance recommending this appropriation, with an estimate, and requesting that the appropriation should be made. It has not been acted upon by the committee, and I have thought it my duty to present this amendment for the action of the Senate. The Senate will recollect that the Secretary of the Navy, in his annual report, directed the attention of the President and the country to this subject. I will read a short extract from that report:

"In commander Lynch, to whom the country is already indebted for important service in another field, I have found a prompt and ardent volunteer for this employment. He is now on his way to the African coast. He will land at Liberia, Cape Palmas, and other points, and will pursue his inquiries as far as the river Gaboon, with a view to the ascertainment of such localities on the margin of the African continent as may present the greatest facilities, whether by the river courses or by inland routes, for penetrating with least hazard to the interior. He will collect information touching the geographical character of the country, its means of affording the necessary supplies of men and provisions, the temper of the inhabitants, whether hostile or friendly, the proper precautions to be observed to secure the health of a party employed, and all other items of knowledge upon which it may be proper hereafter to prepare and combine the forces essential to the success of a complete and useful exploration of the interior. In the performance of this duty, under the most favorable circumstances, he will encounter the perils of a climate famed for its unwholesome influence upon the white man, and may hardly hope to escape the exhibition of hostility from the natives. The spirit which has prompted him to court this perilous adventure, so honorable to his courage and philanthropy, I trust will enable him to brave every hazard with success, to overcome every obstacle in his progress, and to reserve himself for the accomplishment of the great object to which these preparations are directed. In the mean time, I most earnestly commend the subject of the exploration to the early and favorable attention of Congress, with the expression of my own conviction that there is no enterprise of the present day that deserves a higher degree of favor, or that will more honorably signalize the enlightened policy of this Government in the estimation of the present or of future generations. It will require a liberal appropriation of money, and an enlarged discretion to be confided to the Navy Department for the organization and arrangement of a plan of operation which must embrace the employment of a number of men, the supply of boats, armaments, and tools, and the enlistment of such scientific aid as a long and laborious inland exploration, beset with many dangers and difficulties, will suggest."

It will be perceived by the Senate that this expedition has two objects in view.

The first is the exploration of the interior of Africa, and especially of that portion of Western Africa lying directly east of the Republic of Liberia, for the purpose of developing its natural wealth and commercial resources. It is believed by those who have looked at this subject that there is a large region of country directly eastward from Liberia, of a higher elevation, more productive and healthy, than that bordering on the coast. England has paid considerable attention to the exploration of Africa, for the purpose of developing its resources in reference to her own trade with the interior tribes. Our own interests, as well as the calls of humanity and of civilization, demand that we should do something for the improvement of Africa.

The country intended to be explored lies between the meridians of 20° west and 20° east, (Greenwich,) and the parallels of 5° and 15° north latitude, is an inhabited country of which we have sufficiently authentic accounts from actual observation by white men, and reliable reports of natives, to warrant our belief that there live upon it many millions of people who need and are desirous to receive the products of the agriculture and manufactures of more civilized nations. Towards that country adventurous explorers have made essays from the English possessions on the west, from the mouth of the Niger in the south, and also from the Mediterranean. The British are now endeavoring to trade with it from Sierra Leone, and from the Gold coast. Between these two localities lies the Republic of Liberia, offering the only means of access which can be securely open to the activity of the United States. Hence the question of exploration opens the question whether or not the United States shall have a proper share of the great inland traffic of Africa.

The second object is one which I consider of a character eminently national. It is for the purpose of aiding in the colonization of free persons of color from the United States into Africa. The present position of these people in the United States makes it necessary that we should do something for their relief. Several of the free States of this Union have passed laws excluding this unfortunate class of men from their limits. The only way of relief open to them is a more rapid emigration from this country to Africa. To promote and encourage this is one of the objects of this expedition.

Recent discoveries, aided by modern improvements, are producing strange and astonishing changes in the condition and

affairs of the world. Under these operations the hitherto abandoned and dispersed portions of the world are becoming the most attractive, and the waste places of the earth the most productive. Wealth is escaping from its old investments, and population is flying from its crowded homes to wild and distant countries, in search of higher profits and more prosperous business. Lands hitherto rejected for their sterility, and countries despised for their barbarism, are now sought for with avidity on account of the richness of their natural productions and their fitness for the abode of civilized man.

The convict's land, Australia, and the Indian's hunting ground in the Pacific, now command the respect of the civilized world, and by the abundance of their golden treasures regulate the exchanges of London and New York, and give tone and character to the commerce of the world.

Let no man hereafter condemn any portion of God's earth as hopeless and useless.

Africa, doomed and despised as she has been by the opinion of the world, is in no less forlorn condition than was Australia and California ten years ago. It needs but exploration and development to bring forth her natural wealth for the use of man. But I have not time now to go into this subject at large. I believe that Africa is about to open one of the richest fields of commerce in the world. It needs only exploration and development to make it one of the most attractive and profitable regions. I therefore think this expedition will be of more service to the country and the world than any of the recent expeditions projected by this Government.

Mr. President, a few days since I presented to the Senate a resolution of inquiry relative to the acknowledgment of the independence of the Republic of Liberia. I sought on several occasions to bring that resolution before the Senate for consideration, in order that I might give to the country the reasons which induced me to offer it; but the time of the Senate has been so occupied that no opportunity was afforded me to do so. As the subject now under consideration is germane to that question, I will take this occasion to give to the country the reasons why I think the Government of the United States should acknowledge the independence of Liberia.

I was induced to offer that resolution in consideration of the notorious fact that Liberia has existed as an independent republic for five years without any official recognition by our Government, while England, France, Prussia, and Brazil have

acknowledged her nationality, and received her into the family of nations.

This silence on our part to notice the first and only free Government upon the Continent of Africa is the more remarkable when we consider the origin and history of that republic.

Liberia is of American origin, nurtured and protected through all the trials and dangers of colonial life up to her present national existence by the benevolence and enterprise of our citizens. Associated with the names and sustained by the influences of the greatest statesmen and the purest philanthropists of America, her humble history connects itself with our own, and forms one of the most interesting chapters in our national annals.

On the 24th of December, 1816, a meeting was held in this Capitol for the purpose of adopting measures to assist in the formation and execution of a plan for the colonization of the free people of color, with their consent, in Africa. This meeting, though small in numbers, was great in the moral, intellectual, and political characters of the men who composed it. Henry Clay presided over its deliberations, and John Randolph and other distinguished public men of that day took part in the discussions which led to the unanimous adoption of the following preamble and resolutions:

"The situation of the free people of color in the United States has been the subject of anxious solicitude with many of our most distinguished citizens, from the first existence of our country as an independent nation; but the great difficulty and embarrassment attending the establishment of an infant nation, when first struggling into existence, and the subsequent convulsions of Europe, have hitherto prevented any great national effort to provide a remedy for the evils existing or apprehended. The present period seems peculiarly auspicious to invite attention to this important subject, and gives a well-grounded hope of success. The nations of Europe are hushed into peace; unexampled efforts are making in various parts of the world to diffuse knowledge, civilization, and the benign influence of the christian religion. The rights of man are becoming daily better understood; the legitimate objects of Government, as founded for the benefit and intended for the happiness of man, are more generally acknowledged, and an ardent zeal for the happiness of the human race is kindled in almost every heart. Desirous of aiding in the great cause of philanthropy, and of promoting the prosperity and happiness of our country, it is recommended by this

meeting to form an association or society for the purpose of giving aid and assisting in the colonization of the free people of color in the United States ; therefore,

“*Resolved*, That an association or society be formed for the purpose of collecting information, and to assist in the formation and execution of a plan for the colonization of the free people of color, with their consent, in Africa, or elsewhere, as may be thought most advisable by the constituted authorities of the country.”

Four days after, at an adjourned meeting, the first constitution of the American Colonization Society was adopted, and on New Year's day, 1817, the following officers of the society were elected :

President : Bushrod Washington. Vice Presidents : William H. Crawford of Ga., Henry Clay of Kentucky, William Phillips of Massachusetts, Henry Rutgers of New York, John E. Howard, Samuel Smith, John C. Herbert of Maryland, John Taylor of Caroline, of Virginia, Andrew Jackson of Tennessee, Robert Ralston, Richard Rush of Pennsylvania, John Mason of the District of Columbia, and Rev. Robert Findley of New Jersey.

Immediately after the organization of the society, the following resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the President and Board of Managers be and they are hereby instructed and required to present a memorial to Congress on the subject of colonizing, with their consent, the free people of color of the United States in Africa or elsewhere ”

The memorial here referred to was signed by Bushrod Washington, president of the society, and was on the 14th of January, 1817, presented to Congress. I will read two extracts from this memorial, in order to show to the Senate that the great men who originated the plan of African colonization were influenced by high national considerations, and that the final and grand object of their patriotic enterprise was the establishment of a free national government in Africa ; the successful result of which, after forty years of labor, my resolution was intended to acknowledge and proclaim to the world. The memorial says :

“Your memorialists are delegated by a numerous and highly respectable association of their fellow-citizens, recently organized at the seat of Government, to solicit Congress to aid with its power, the patronage and the resources of the country, the great and beneficial object of their institution—an object deemed worthy of

the earnest attention, and of the strenuous and persevering exertions, as well of every patriot, in whatever condition of life, as of every enlightened, philanthropic, and practical statesman.” * *

“Your memorialists beg leave, with all deference, to suggest that the fairest and most inviting opportunities are now presented to the General Government for repairing a great evil in our social and political institutions, and at the same time for elevating, from a low and hopeless condition, a numerous and rapidly increasing race of men, who want nothing but a proper theatre to enter upon the pursuit of happiness and independence, in the ordinary paths which a benign Providence has left open to the human race. Those great ends, it is conceived, may be accomplished by making adequate provision for planting in some salubrious and fertile region, a colony to be composed of such of the above description of persons as may choose to emigrate ; and for extending to it the authority and protection of the United States, until it shall have attained sufficient strength and consistency to be left in a state of independence.”

In the month of February, 1820, the ship *Elizabeth* sailed from the United States with eighty-six passengers ; they were free people of color, voluntarily emigrating from this country to the western coast of Africa, to make a permanent settlement there. The good ship carried them safely to their destination. From this small plantation of legally manumitted slaves there has grown up, in the course of thirty years, a nation containing, of emigrants and natives, two hundred thousand inhabitants, governed by a republican form of government, with a written constitution like our own, and exercising an undisputed dominion over seven hundred miles of sea coast, with an extent of inland territory yet undefined, and commanding by its position the trade and commerce of Western Africa.

The establishment of the Republic of Liberia is one of the most remarkable events in this most eventful age. History furnishes no parallel either as to its origin, the motives which induced it, or the means used to bring about the grand result. It commenced a private enterprise, not of gain, but of benevolence. The inducing cause was humanity ; the means used, christian charity. Its great objects, the relief of two continents from the evils of slavery and barbarism ; its grand result, civil and religious liberty to a whole race of men. But what is still more remark-

able, all these great objects have been accomplished, legally, justly, and peacefully, without aggression or wrong; interfering with no man's rights, intervening upon no nation's prerogatives, and by its quiet and lawful progress, exciting neither the passions nor the prejudices of any. Liberia is the first Republic ever established without revolution, or war, or bloodshed.

The patrons of African colonization were neither fanatics or agitators. They occupied an unappropriated field of usefulness, and nobly have they cultivated it. The objects of their beneficence were outcasts from Government and country. They took up the slave after law and constitution and master had released their obligations over him. They found him outside of social and political relations, isolated, degraded, and forsaken. They pursued him when the law was a fugitive from the slave, and not he a fugitive from the law. And when neither master nor State nor Government would own him or protect him, this beneficent enterprise took the outlaw under its guardian care, and has given him a name, a character, and a country.

During the time this great work was in progress it received the aid and approbation of the wise and good men from all sections of the country. President Monroe was one of its earliest and warmest friends; and there is a "Monroe doctrine" as to colonization in Africa as well as to colonization in America equally orthodox, although not quite so popular.—It also received some collateral aid from the Government itself. So national was the object, so catholic was the feeling in favor of its success, that even the strictest constructionist expressed the regret that there was not a clear power in the Constitution to enable the Government to adopt the enterprise as its own, and to extend to it national aid and protection. It is perhaps well that the Government did not interfere, for the work has been done without the exercise of any doubtful powers. That which Politicians hesitated to do; that which our Constitution, with all its liberty, had not the power to accomplish; that which armies and navies could not force into existence, has been peacefully accomplished by private enterprise, instigated and supported by christian charity. And now, sir, the work being done, and the grand result made manifest to the world, the question is whether we shall acknowledge the event and stamp it with the official approbation of the nation.

In my opinion both national honor and national policy demand that we should do so. No one can doubt our power, and the question is one of expediency merely. Is it inexpedient for the United States now to acknowledge the nationality of Liberia? In treating that question, I intend on this occasion to confine myself mainly to a commercial view of the subject.

For some years past the European commercial nations have, with a view to settlement and trade, turned their attention to Africa. For these objects England has established and now maintains with much energy her colonies at Sierra Leone, upon the Cape, and at other points on the coast. France also has her possessions at Algeria. No one, I think, can at this day mistake the policy of England with regard to unappropriated fields of commerce. We have a most striking illustration of this in that mighty political and commercial dominion which she has secured in the East Indies, and in her attempts upon South and Central America. No country is too remote, no island too distant, for her ships; no tribe nor class too savage or insignificant for her barter. Bushmen and Hottentots, negroes and Mosquito Indians, are all objects of her commercial attention; wherever human beings are found requiring food and raiment, and have something to give in exchange for them, England is ready to administer to their wants. To such a policy Africa opens up a rich and wide field of operation, and, if I mistake not the signs of the times, she is preparing to improve the opportunity afforded her by our neglect of Liberia.

It is quite evident that, whatever the foreign commerce of western Africa may be, the Republic of Liberia will control it. Her position on the coast will give to her that advantage. I have no certain data for ascertaining the present amount of that commerce. I am, however, informed that the trade of England with the western coast of Africa exceeds \$5,000,000 annually; but, whatever may be the present amount, it forms no criterion of its future developments. Up to 1847, the year of Liberia's independence, it was a mere struggle for existence, without the power or the means to protect or regulate commerce; and without ships, without any of the facilities of trade, the colony of Liberia could do but little towards developing either her domestic or foreign commerce. But these hindrances have now been overcome by the establishment

of national Government. She has now the power to form international relations, under the directions of which the productions of that vast region of country will find their way through the regular channels of foreign trade to the markets of the world.

This new field of commercial enterprise will attract the observation of other nations, and, if we continue to look on with indifference, the republic of Liberia, by our neglect or timidity, may become in fact, if not in name, a commercial colony of England. And thus, sir, it will turn out that that rich commercial harvest, the seeds of which we sowed, will be reaped by another, and the first fruits of the tree which we planted will be plucked by our rival.

Liberia acknowledges with gratitude our superior claim over all other nations to any advantages in trade which she can legally confer upon foreign Powers, and we may now secure by free concession a commercial dominion over western Africa which, in my opinion, will in the course of twenty years, be tenfold more valuable than that we shall acquire by force over other portions of the world. But to secure these advantages we must put ourselves in a position to obtain them. To do this we must form commercial relations with Liberia; and to this end the first step is to acknowledge the nationality of the Government which has the power to control the subject.

England has seized the first opportunity to form these relations. And why has she done so? Not that she has any peculiar regard for this young republic, or for her free institutions, but simply because she sees in that infant Government, weak and feeble as it is, the germ of national power which will hereafter direct and control a vast region of commercial dominion.

If we refuse or neglect to acknowledge the national existence of Liberia, we can have nothing to say against the partiality of any treaty she may form with those nations who may recognise her nationality. And if England or France should to-day obtain for any of their subjects the exclusive right to trade in palm oil, or the privilege of introducing their manufactures free of duty into Western Africa, we could not justly complain, for by our cold neglect we shall be presumed not to know that there is such a country as Liberia, or, if we know of its existence, we deemed her not worthy of our international intercourse.

But, sir, I desire to present a higher view of this subject than that derived

from the mere lucre of trade. There is a mighty moral power in commerce, the power of civilization and humanity.

The early foreign commerce of a half-civilized country frequently gives tone and character to its inhabitants, which are seen and felt during many years of their future progress. It not unfrequently impresses a deep influence upon the very soil itself. Africa is a striking example of this result. For many years her only foreign commerce was the slave trade, the exchange of her children for the things of other countries. The result of this unnatural intercourse was to bring upon that benighted region a two-fold curse—additional brutality to its inhabitants and an increased sterility upon its soil. Thus it was that commerce, deprived of its moral power, impressed upon both people and land a curse so deep that it will require centuries to eradicate the evil. We have other examples of the effects of illicit commerce in the opium trade of the East, in the early slave trade of Spanish America, and in our own whiskey dealings with the northern tribes of Indians.

But a new and happier era has opened upon Africa. The republic of Liberia has put an end to the slave trade in Western Africa. She has done what the three great christian Powers of the earth—England, France, and America—could not accomplish. She has done it, not by force, not by fleets and armies, nor yet by premiums and prize money, but simply by working out one of the simple rules of legitimate commerce, so plainly that even the dull mind of the native negro may comprehend it, by teaching him that the productions of the forests, the fruits of the trees, and the vegetables of the soil, which God has planted all about him, may by the aid of his labor bring to him and to his family more comfort and wealth than all the gains of the unnatural slave trade. And now, along a coast of seven hundred miles, where but a few years since the only marts of trade were the slave-pens to which the chiefs dragged their brothers and their children to barter for foreign productions, are to be found safe harbors in which English steamers and American packets may be seen, inviting the natives to bring the vegetable oils, the coffee, and the spices, with all the other rapid and rich productions of that sunny land, and exchange them on equal terms for foreign merchandise. Civilized and christian commerce has taken the place of the barbarous traffic in human blood. Legal trade has superseded piracy, and the flag of a Republic, and the laws,

of a constitutional Government, defend, protect, and encourage the honest labor of a free and christian people.

Thus has legitimate commerce become the efficient instrument for the regeneration of Africa. The Colonization Society has done its work, private charity and Christian benevolence have performed their duty. Through their agency law and liberty, religion and civilization, have been carried into Africa, and there embodied in free national institutions. A new power and influence are now required to sustain and to protect those institutions, so as to enable them to accomplish the final and glorious result for which they were established. That power is national; that influence is commercial. It is our duty, as it will be our interest, to exercise that power and direct that influence. If we will do so, we shall accomplish the two grand results contemplated by the friends of African Colonization—the civilization of Africa, and the removal from this country of that anomalous class of men called free people of color. I have already shown the mighty influence of commerce upon the first named object; I will now endeavor to show its efficiency to accomplish the latter. The negro is a timid creature; he lives and moves more by sight than by faith; he feels in his soul that which the white man boldly avows—that he is an inferior being, and therefore the subject of deception and wrong.

Hence it is that so few of the free people of color have been found willing to leave even this land of their degradation for a better home and country in Africa.

Here, in my opinion, lies the difficulty in the way of a more rapid emigration of these people to Liberia. But, sir, let them know by a public official act of this Government that the country to which you desire to send them has a name and a position in the family of nations; that the people and the institutions of that country are respected by the great Powers of the earth; let them understand that you have an interest in their commerce; let them see the ships returning from Africa laden with rich cargoes of merchandise of native production and ownership; let them see the flag of their country waving in your harbors, side by side with the merchant flags of Europe; in a word, give to the free negro ocular demonstration that money may be made in Liberia; that fortunes may be accumulated, and that social and public positions of honor and profit are there at his command, and we shall soon see that even the degraded and suspicious negro is

subject to the same laws and influences which govern the white emigrant. The negro is not the only emigrant who is moved by sight more than by faith. All the speeches, reports, and books that were made and published about the wealth and commercial advantages of California produced but little effect upon our people; they wondered and talked, but they did not believe; and it was not until some adventurer returned from the mines and presented to our sight and touch the shining ingot and the golden sands fresh from the jiggings that our people were roused to that spirit of emigration which has since sent them in thousands, by sea and by land, to the shores of the Pacific.

So, sir, it will be with emigration to Africa. It will move cautiously and slowly until commerce shall expose to the eye of the world the rich mines of natural wealth which now lie hidden in the dark forests of that neglected continent. When this expose is made I have no doubt the free negro will have many a white competitor in the race of emigration even to Africa.

In urging this subject upon the consideration of the Senate, I have not been indifferent to the fact that there are difficulties in the way of our forming full international relations with Liberia. They are of a domestic character, applicable alone to this country, and required to be treated with delicacy and prudence. My desire is to keep clear of these difficulties, and I have therefore made my resolution one of inquiry merely, leaving it to the Committee on Foreign Relations to decide the proper way and manner of accomplishing the object.

My desire is to obtain a simple recognition of the nationality of Liberia, preparatory to forming commercial relations with that Government, reserving the more delicate question of diplomatic relations to the future action of the Executive, under the advice of the Senate. When, under what circumstances, and in what form, this Government will enter into diplomatic relations with Liberia, whether we shall send a representative there or receive one from her here, is not necessarily involved in the acknowledgment of her independence.

That question I have no desire to intrude upon the Senate, and which whenever presented, should be treated with reference to our peculiar domestic institutions, and disposed of in such manner as would be least offensive to the feelings and habits of the people of this country.

The acknowledgment of independence is

may be made by Congress; and I have a precedent to show that it is the duty of Congress to take the first step in cases of this kind. I refer to the case of Texas. You will recollect that for some time after the existence of that Government, *de facto*, the President, General Jackson, on account of our friendly relations with Mexico, hesitated to form diplomatic relations with Texas.

In the mean time Congress took up the subject of the recognition of her independence, and in 1836 passed resolutions in both Houses acknowledging the independence of that young Republic.

But, sir, whatever difficulties the fears of gentlemen may suggest upon this point, I can assure them that Liberia will never obtrude herself officiously upon this Government. She knows too well how much forbearance and prudence were required by her friends here, to overcome the prejudices which obstructed her colonial advancement, than to do any act now which might tend to revive opposition. All she asks at our hands is that we shall not now abandon our own great work of free Government in Africa, by neglecting to express our confidence in its strength and our faith in its durability.

I have heard it suggested as an objection to the recognition by this Government of the independence of Liberia, that it would reflect upon the legal institutions of domestic slavery as they now exist in some of the States of this Union; that we cannot admit the capability of the African race for self-government, and at the same time justify ourselves before the world in holding a portion of that race in bondage. This objection, I admit must, to a certain extent, be met and answered in determining the present question.

I therefore answer, in the first place, that the obnoxious fact, the improbability of the African race, has already been established. Liberia is a living witness of its truth, and we, by our refusal to admit its existence, cannot get rid of any of the legitimate results which must flow from that living fact.

Nay more, sir, this experiment, whether for good or for evil to us, is our experiment. We have worked out the problem ourselves, and it is too late now, after the demonstration has been made to the world, for us to shrink from the result.

But, sir, I deny that this successful demonstration in favor of the improvement of the African race can in any manner cast odium upon our domestic institutions, or affect the legal rights of the master over

his slave; but, on the contrary, this experiment has given to American institutions of slavery a moral power and sanction which neither law nor constitution could invest them with. It does so, because it has opened a safe way of deliverance from the evils of slavery, a legal way by which lawful servitude may be safely and legally abolished. It has taken from slavery many of its dark and gloomy features. It has dispelled that hopeless aspect of slavery which clouded the future with fearful forebodings of evil.

The Republic of Liberia is a witness of good and not of evil to the institution of slavery in the United States. She bears living testimony to the fact that the African race has been improved and not debased by servitude in this country. The Government of Liberia could not have been formed out of the native African negro. It was upon the American-born negro, trained and prepared by christian masters, that the experiment has proved successful. Slavery in America has brought liberty to Africa. Our free institutions, by their beneficent workings, have shown that they are capable of improving the lowest grades of humanity, and of making even our slaves more capable of self-government than many of the subjects of European despotisms.

Sir, I am no apologist for slavery in any of its forms, much less would I seek to excuse the deep wrongs which the christian world has perpetrated upon Africa; but if forgiveness is to be found for our criminal aggression upon Africa, it must be sought for in the restitution of her children to their fatherland, improved and trained under our domestic institutions for the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty.

If this generation can atone for the sins of the past, that atonement can only be made by offering up a rich national sacrifice upon the altars of liberty and religion now erected in Liberia.

Why should we hesitate to acknowledge this triumph of humanity, or attempt to cover up a result as honorable to us as it will be glorious to the world? Rather let us proclaim, as with a trumpet, in the dull ear of the despotic nations, that the spirit of American liberty will penetrate the deepest despotism, and enlighten the darkest barbarism with a potency sufficient even to regenerate the negro, and to give liberty and civilization to Africa.

Mr President, absorbed as we have been for the last month with questions of great national import; questions involving the

peace and the dominion of the world, and exciting by their importance the public mind up to the highest point of national pride and glory, I feel, when surrounded by such influences, that I am striking but a low note of public sentiment in advocating the modest claims of Liberia. I fear that the Senate has even grudged me the short hour which I have consumed in presenting this humble subject to their consideration. Yet sir, I confess that I have designedly taken this occasion to trespass upon your time, for the purpose of aiding the cause for which I speak. My object is to take advantage of the exuberance of feeling manifested here in favor of human liberty throughout the wide world, and to ask that its surplus, if nothing more, may be given to Africa. She will be satisfied even with the crumbs which may fall from your over-loaded table. It is true that her claims do not present any of those striking allurements which usually excite the popular mind. She sounds no trumpet of war. She offers no armed resistance to our power. Neither do kings nor emperors resist our intervention. Africa lies before us unappropriated and unoccupied; neglected and despised alike by the cupidity and the ambition of the world. Yet she is not destitute of some charms to the true friends of progress and humanity.

She presents a field of commerce wide and rich, extensive territories to be cultivated and improved, barbarous people to be civilized, heathen men to be christianized; a continent unoccupied by despotic power, to which God and nature invite us to come and bless with our free institutions.

If the colony of Liberia had been planted by our people in Europe instead of Africa, how we should have watched with jealous care its daily progress, resisted with national power every attempt to impede its advancement, and would have seized the very first opportunity to acknowledge its existence as a free Republican Government. There has not been a movement in Europe for liberty, however feeble, that we have not looked upon with anxious eye. There has been no country, however remote or insignificant, in which an advance towards free government has been made, that has not commanded our sympathy and attention. So frantic have we become in the cause of free institutions, that we have been betrayed by our sensibilities to endorse spurious movements for civil liberty altogether unworthy of our approbation. The late revolutions in France and Italy were specimens of this character.

But, sir, the case now presented is one of no doubtful character. It is a people who through years of trial and suffering have shown their devotion to and their capability for free government; a young Republic of American origin, with a constitution like our own, and who aspire to no higher ambition than that of being instrumental in disseminating over Africa our own great principles of liberty and humanity.

Shall we refuse to this true republic that influence which we are continually wasting upon the sham republics of Europe? Shall we be deaf to the calls of humanity, and only show our love for human liberty where ambition instigates our action?—Shall we beat the air to agitate the morbid political atmosphere of Europe, and refuse to strike a blow for liberty when all Africa, land and people, lie before us, prepared to receive the impression of our power?

But, after all that I have said it is probable that this subject will be lost sight of in the more absorbing topics of the hour; be shoved aside by Cuba, by Japan, or the Bay Islands, and so the existence of the Republic of Liberia be forgotten for a season. But, thank God, liberty and law will still live in Africa; and the time will come when we shall not only acknowledge the independence of Liberia, but in our need cry unto her as unto a sister, to relieve us from a national curse—a curse from which the dominion of all America, from pole to pole, cannot save us—the national evil of an overgrown and degraded population of *emancipated slaves*.

In ordinary cases the recognition of a new Government by the old Powers of the world is but a national courtesy, a cold formality, conferring neither influence nor character. But not so in the present case. The acknowledgment of the independence of Liberia by the United States, however formal on our part, will confer substantial benefits upon that young republic, of vital importance to her future welfare. As she was indebted to us for national existence, she is still dependent upon our favor and good will for future life and prosperity. An experiment in government upon the capabilities of a degraded race of men, with no past history to excite national pride, with no heroic legends to reflect national glory, with no ancestral associations to confer national character—just emerging from centuries of slavery in America, and still standing beneath the gloomy shadows of barbarism in Africa, Liberia has but a slight and feeble hold

upon national existence. A kind word, timely spoken by us, will impart to her feebleness strength, confidence, and enduring life. Shall we not speak that word declaring that her national independence has the confidence of this Government, and will be sustained by the friendly regards of the people of the United States?

Mr. MASON. I wish to say that whenever a proposition is made here to acknowledge the independence of the Republic of Liberia, and admit her into the family of nations, I shall endeavor to show that it will be very unfortunate. I know no authority in this Government to recognize any connexion with the Colonization Society in any form.

Mr. MILLER. The gentleman is mistaken with regard to the Colonization Society. It is for the purpose of carrying out the proposition of the Secretary of the Navy, mentioned in his annual report respecting the expedition for the exploration of the interior of Africa. He recommends a further appropriation for the purpose of making the exploration.

Mr. PRATT. In my judgment the colonization of the free blacks of this country is a subject of as much practical importance as any which has occupied the attention of this country; and looking to this as the initiative on the part of the Federal Government to assist the States of this Union in a work in which all the States are interested in getting rid of that description of population, I do not think any proposition has been submitted to the Senate of more practical importance. The honorable Senator from New Jersey has informed the Senate that the free States are now passing laws prohibiting the continuance of this description of population within their respective limits. It is known to us who represent the South that the South is doing the same thing. These people are here, and to say that this Federal Government, which possesses the only ability to do it—the States not having the constitutional power to rid the country of the population which every State in the Union is prohibiting from living in their limits—has not the constitutional power to remove them, is, I think, incorrect. The very necessity of the thing shows the constitutionality of it.

Mr. President, I believe this is common ground, upon which philanthropists from every section of the country can meet. Here is an unfortunate population, dispersed throughout every State in this Union, more or less; and every State is legislating for the purpose of preventing

their continuance there. And there is no power except that of the Federal Government that has the ability to get rid of them and place them where they can be comfortable. I do hope the amendment may be adopted. I hope the exploration may be made. I shall vote for the amendment with the hope that when the exploration is made it will be followed up by appropriations on the part of the Federal Government for the purpose of ridding the country of this nuisance to the whole society of the United States.

Mr. BELL. I would suggest to the Senator from New Jersey to modify his amendment by striking out all that part which relates to colonization. It will stand then upon the same principle which has been recognised by Congress. I think it will obviate some of the general objections made by the Senator from Virginia, (Mr. Mason.) The object is to authorize an exploration; to vote a small sum of money for the purpose of exploring a small portion of the country near the coast of Africa—a country which may be of a character important to the United States in various aspects. Sir, this policy has been pursued in our legislation by authorizing explorations to the South pole, or as near to it as we could. We have another expedition to the North pole. And what are all these objects but for the purpose of extending our knowledge to the remote and unknown parts of the world, with a view to develop the resources and interest of this great country. Here is a portion of *terra firma*, a large portion of which is *terra incognita* to us. Who knows what interest may spring up by having a knowledge of the resources of the interior of a country upon a large portion of which the foot of a white man has never been imprinted? I have heard an incident connected with this proposition which interested me. I heard it from a source the authenticity of which I can have no doubt about. Commander Lynch is already known to the public as an able and enterprising explorer, whose merits in that respect are well known, and have been published to the world; and I understand that such is his zeal for adventure in exploring those parts of the world from which others shrink that he is ready to go himself, alone if necessary, or with such protection as he may get, and risk his life in those interior regions of Africa, wherever it may be supposed to be most for the interest of this country. I understand that he has gone to the coast this year to make such exploration of the coast as may be

done ; but his main object is to go there and become acclimated, and it may be expose himself to die in qualifying himself to make further explorations in the interior. That consideration is enough to attract the attention and sympathy of every Senator on this floor. It may be he will die in endeavouring to qualify himself for the object he has in view. He does it for the purpose of hardening himself by taking the African fever ; and then, if he overcomes that, he knows that he will be enabled to go into the interior and explore those unknown regions.

What was the exploration which we had under the same authority, recommended by the House of Representatives, for the opening of the country upon the Amazon, and the Cordilleras of the South, far down from the Andes, to the mouth of the Amazon, a distance of some three or four thousand miles, a great portion of which was before unknown to this country ? We have had explorations by the authority of the Government, and why not have one into the interior of Africa ? But I will not go into this subject. I know we have not time now. I merely meant to state that I think we can appropriate money for this purpose, that we have appropriated money to make explorations in the East, and in different quarters of the world, and in some places where we can never expect to derive any advantage ; that the principle is the same, and I hope the amendment will be adopted without hesitation.

Mr. GWIN. I hope we shall have a vote. There are several other amendments which will be lost unless they are acted upon soon.

Mr. MASON. I freely admit that whenever it is for the benefit of the public service for any officer to make explorations abroad, under the sanction of the Department, there may be no objection. But I decidedly protest against any power of the Government to send any officer upon any expedition of this character, for the purpose of opening commercial resources, or anything of that character. I merely rose for the purpose of making this protest. I do not wish to go into any thing of this kind. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. CHASE. I see no objection to this amendment, Mr. President, so far as it contemplates the employment of a portion of our naval force in the exploration of Africa. I should not object even to the organization of a party of officers and civilians for the purpose of ascertaining the resources of that continent, and opening new avenues of commerce with its inhabi-

tants. It is but recently that an expedition has been organized by this Government to visit the shores of Japan, with the purpose of opening, if possible, that vast country to American commerce. Africa, in a commercial point of view, is of more importance than Japan. The honorable Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MILLER) has stated strongly, but not too strongly, the value of its commerce. In what he has said on that head I fully concur.

But, sir, I object with emphasis to that feature of this amendment which contemplates the expatriation or "getting rid"—to use the language of the Senator from Maryland, (Mr. PRATT)—of any portion of our population. Not that I object to colonization. That is quite another matter. Let every one who chooses, whether white or black, leave our shores and seek, under happier auspices, happier homes in otherlands. But let no man, native or naturalized, guiltless of offence, be driven forth from his country. Compulsory expatriation of any class is an offence against civilization, and incompatible with justice.

Let all classes of our population, of whatever complexion and of whatever origin, be dealt with upon the simple principles of right, and justice, of humanity. Give every man a fair and equal chance upon the arena of human effort ; and my word for it, you will do more for civilization, more for the improvement of all classes, more for the prosperity and progress of the whole country, than can be accomplished by any scheme of expatriation.

I know there is no time now to debate this subject. I have risen merely to enter my distinct and decided protest against "getting rid" by expatriation of any portion of our people. No such scheme can be reconciled with the simple dictates of humanity and justice, and to disregard these is criminal folly in legislation or in administration.

If the Senator from New Jersey is willing to modify his amendment according to the suggestion of the Senator from Tennessee, by striking out that part relating to colonization, I have no objection to voting for it.

Mr. BELL. I make the motion to strike out all that part of the amendment which relates to colonization.

Mr. MILLER. I accept the modification. I have no objection to that ; all I want is to get the exploration.

The PRESIDENT. If there be no objection, it will be so modified.

Mr. PRATT. Let us have the question.
Mr. BAYARD. I would ask if that comes from any committee ?

Mr. PRATT. It is recommended by the Navy Department.

The question was then taken, with the following result ;

YEAS—Messrs. Badger, Bell, Bright, Chase, Clarke, Cooper, Davis, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Fish, Foot, Mangum, Miller, Pierce, Pratt, Smith,

Soule, Spruance, Sumner, Underwood, and Wade—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchinson, Bayard, Borland, Broadhead, Cass, Charlton, De Saussure, Fitzpatrick, Geyer, Gwin, Hunter, Jones of Tennessee, Mallory, Mason, Morton, Norris, Pettit, Rusk, Sebastian, Toucey, and Weller—21.

So the amendment was rejected.

Recent Intelligence from Liberia.

WE have received, by way of England, letters from Mourovia and Buchanan, to the 25th January last ; from which we learn that the three emigrant vessels which sailed last November—the Joseph Maxwell, from Wilmington, N. C.—the Linda Stewart from Norfolk, and the Shirley from Baltimore—also the Oriole which sailed from New York in October—had arrived in safety ; with *three hundred and sixty emigrants*—all in good health and spirits. All of these are located on the St. Paul's River—part of them at Millsburg, the rest, temporarily, at the "Receptacle," near the Virginia settlement. The intelligence respecting the condition of affairs in general in the Republic, is quite encouraging. The steam saw mill at Buchanan has been in successful operation for several months. Mr. Benson under date of January 11th, says, in reference to the mill, "Its worth to Liberia in general, and this county in particular, is indescribable. It gives new life to the county. We have plenty of logs (timber not used before) brought down the rivers. The natives of the country have heartily entered into the spirit of getting tim-

ber. Rafts are seen almost daily floating down three rivers,—” the St. John's, Mechlin, and Benson. We deeply regret, however, the death of John Smith, the engineer, who went out with the mill. He was accidentally caught by the circular saw, and was so much injured that he died in a few hours.

His death has deprived Liberia of the services of one of her most valuable citizens. His place as engineer has been supplied by George L. Seymour, who says, "The engine is running often day and night, and the saw cuts any kind of timber. And now we want a railroad for interior purposes ; for the wealth of the country is great, and transportation is an important item in the advance of our country."

Mr. Benson says, "I am happy to inform you that Fishtown has been occupied by at least forty men—permanent settlers—since October 11th. A considerable area is cleared and planted, and growing finely. It is really a charming place—pronounced by Dr. Smith and others to be healthy, in which I think they are correct, judging from the rapid improvement in health the emigrants

have made since they went down there."

President Roberts has returned from his recent visit to England and France; his visit to those countries having, as we believe, proved very advantageous to Liberia in a national point of view.

General Lewis says, "The Chevalier Niteroi is still here; and, until about six weeks ago, we had no positive understanding as to his mission. We now know that his Government (the Brazilian) proposes to send two thousand, or more, liberated Africans to Liberia. He has asked upon what terms they would be received. This last inter-

rogatory, not being quite formal, the subject is still open. He receives a salary of \$5,000 per annum, and spends money freely."

In reference to the rumor of the revival of the slave trade at the Gallinas,—General Lewis says, "You may be assured that we will not permit it to be so. I do not believe however, that it is at the Gallinas that the trade is revived, but somewhere at the Shebar."

We have several interesting letters from the new emigrants, which will appear in the next Repository, should they be crowded out of the present number.

Autographs of Henry Clay.

Applications being continually made to the family of the late Henry Clay for autographs and other mementoes of the illustrious dead, the Lexington Observer has been requested to say that all such articles as they can part with have been disposed of. The number supplied has been so large as to leave the family only such memorials as they wish to preserve.

We understand that the American Colonization Society is in possession of some blank certificates of life-membership, signed by Mr. Clay, as President of the Society, a few months previous to his death. And we are authorized to say that one of these certificates, with the donor's name inserted, and attested by the Secretary of the Society, will be forwarded by mail to any person who will send to the Secretary, Rev. W. McLain, thirty dollars, the

amount required by the constitution of the Society to constitute a life-member.

In addition to the possession of the autograph of the illustrious statesman, the person or persons thus contributing to the funds of the Society will be aiding an enterprise which we regard as one of the most benevolent of the age, and one which Mr. Clay had more at heart than any other. They will also be entitled to receive the "African Repository," the monthly publication for the Society, gratuitously.—*National Intelligencer*, March 14.

We have already received several applications for certificates with Mr. Clay's signature, since the appearance of the foregoing notice.

ED. REPOS.

Letter from Liberia.

ATHENS, Ohio,
Dec. 28th, 1852.

Rev. J. B. PINNEY;

DEAR SIR:—I send the following extracts from a letter written to his parents by Armistead Miller, a young colored man who left this place in May last, for Liberia. It is another testimony in favor of that "good country" as the appropriate home of the colored man; and its insertion in your journal may interest those who are acquainted with the writer, and may do good to others. The letter was written at intervals between the 15th of June and the first of September.

Yours truly, A. WILLIAMS.

MONROVIA,
June 18, 1852.

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER:—I am happy to tell you that I am safe in Liberia, that good country of which I used to talk so much; and a good country it is. I am not able to explain to you all the beauty of Liberia, but, of all the world beside, give me Liberia for my home. I landed on the Sabbath morning and went right on to the church, and when I got there, Rev. Mr. Wilson, of New Jersey, was preaching. So I saw and heard that a white man could preach in Liberia as well as in America. I went into the church and was invited by Mr. James to take a seat with him; and everybody appeared to be glad to see me. My friends, it is true that I am now several thousand miles from you; but the same God that took care of me when I was with you, takes care of me now. He is my God, and I hope that you may say that he is your God.

I guess that you would like to hear something more about Africa. When I reached the shore, I was glad to see so many new kinds of trees, bushes, weeds, and grass, all

clothed in beautiful green. I was very much rejoiced when I saw numbers of cows, hogs, sheep, goats, chickens, turkeys, ducks, &c. When I got in town, I found that all the shade trees were fruit trees, and there were fruit trees all over town. There are so many kinds of fruits here, I won't try to tell you all their names in this letter. I have the delight to see coffee green, and to see it ripe on the trees; also to suck the sugar syrup out of the beautiful sugar cane. My friends, the people in Liberia are doing well; and best of all, they are doing great good. Mr. James is a Presbyterian teacher, and has a lady assistant; and they have under their charge from sixty to seventy pupils. Our High School I hope, will do a great deal of good. The Methodist have also built a fine and commodious house, and they have a flourishing school in it. Our school has one young man from the West Indies, who is looking forward to the ministry, and promises to be very useful. His name is Edward Blyden.

I am still more desirous now to see you in Liberia than I ever was. If you were all here, your children might all be going to school every day; and it would be a great advantage to you and to them. They may be, and they may do, in Liberia, what they cannot be and do any where else; and so may you. Liberia is our home, that God has given us; and we should come to it, where we may serve Him as we ought. It is a goodly land, a land flowing with milk and honey, and we may enjoy it if we will. If I had the means, I would come and try to get you out here next spring. Be sure to lay up all the money you can, for you cannot make a comfortable voyage to Liberia without money; and the more you have the better. But

when once you are here, you will be at home. The trees in your yard will give you the very best kind of food for your table. And we have plenty of the very best kind of fish; and you may raise just as many cows, hogs, sheep, goats, and all kinds of fowls, as you please. And in your field you may raise all the corn, potatoes, beans, peas, and the like, that you want.

I can now tell you that I have drawn my lot in Monrovia, lot No. 433, on Broad street; a most beautiful situation, on a high place, where I can stand and see all over town; and if I am ever able to build a house on it, I can build it where the water will all run off when it rains. And if I can find the means to improve my lot, it will soon be worth several thousand dollars, because it is one of the best situations, and is on the best street in town. * * * I have good news to tell you. I was on my lot the other day cutting down some bushes, and I found on

it some coffee trees, a palm tree, and some pine-apple shrubs. Some of my trees have a good deal of fine coffee on them, and Mrs. James says that my palm tree is worth ten dollars. You can stand on my lot and see the ocean in several places. But the law of Liberia is, that I have to build a house on it within two years, with a shingled roof and a plank floor; so, except I can get the means to build the house, the law will take it from me.

Since I left home I have had the measles, the mumps, and the acclimating fever; but, thank God, through his providence I have got well of all of them, only I am not quite acclimated. And after all these sicknesses, I now weigh 135 pounds; and I believe, as a general thing, I feel just as well as I ever did; and I think Liberia is one of the most pleasant countries on the globe.

I am still your affectionate son,
ARMISTEAD MILLER.

Receipts of the American Colonization Society,

From the 1st to the 24th of March, 1853.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Palmer—Part of the legacy left the Am. Col. Soc. by Dwight Foster, late of Palmer, Mass., deceased, received from John Foster and S. Foster, Executors, through Rev. Jos. Tracy, 225 00

RHODE ISLAND.

By Capt. George Barker:—

Providence—William P. Bullock, \$30, to constitute himself a life member of the Am. Col. Society, President Francis Wayland, D. D., \$25; E. W. Howard, \$15; Shubael Hutchins, \$10; Dr. T. P. Shepard, Thos. J. Stead, Edward Seagrave, Benjamin White, Mrs. Harriet Brown, each, \$5; Thos. Phillips, A. Caswell, D. D., each \$2; Dea. Snow, \$1. 110 00

Slaterville—Wm. S. Slater, \$20; Madam Slater, \$5. 25 00

Warren—Joseph Smith, Esq., \$30, to constitute himself a life member of the Am. Col. Soc.. 30 00

Hamlet—George S. Wardwell. . . 5 00

170 00

CONNECTICUT.

By Rev John Orcutt:—

Hartford—Dea. Thomas Smith, \$30, to constitute the Rev. E. R. Beadle a life member of the Am. Col. Soc.; Hon. Thos. S. Williams, \$60; H. Huntington, \$50; A. Smith, A. Dunham, J. B. Hosmer, Loyal Wilcox, Joseph Trumbull, Fr. Parsons, Esq., each \$25; Rev. E. R. Beadle, L. C. Ives, R. Mather, Chas. Seymour, Mrs. L. H. Sigourney, each \$20; Bishop Brownwell, Hon. Chas. Chapman, Cash, T. Belknap, Calvin Day, Woodruff & Beach, Hon. James Dixon, C. C. Lyman, John L. Boswell, Erastus Collins, Lucius Barbour, E. N. Kellogg, E. T. Smith, H. A. Perkins, D. P. Crosby, D. Watkinson, J. Warburton, D.

F. Robinson, cash, Dea. A. W. Butler, each \$10; President Williams, D. Clark, Misses Draper, Misses Seymour, Rev. W. W. Turner, cash, S. Spencer, cash, J. M. Bunce, E. Fessenden, C. Sigourney, Capt. Flower, T. M. Allyn, C. Spencer, Dudley Buck, A. W. Chapin, G. Trumbull, H. Fitch, William L. Collins, Chester Adams, C. Ives, H. and W. Keney, Mrs. Charles Pond, Elisha Colt, E. Bolles, B. E. Hooker, G. M. Welch, cash, J. W. Bull, T. Wadsworth, Dea. S. S. Ward, P. Ripley, H. & C., C. H. Brainard, W. W. House, J. F. Judd, Allyn & Co., R. G. Tallcott & wife, H. H. Barbour, Esq., James Goodwin, cash, Timothy Williams, each \$5; Chas. Hosmer, J. S. Curtis, S. Tuttle & Sons, J. Bolter, Dea. A. Day, C. H. Sigourney, E. Hills, E. G. Ripley, D. Phillips, J. H. Trumbull, C. Boswell, M. C. W., Fales & Gray, J. M. Niles, H. L. Porter, Rev. A. C. Baldwin, Dea. O. Allen, E. A. Bulkely, Thomas T. Fisher, each, \$3; Prof. Brocklesby, Prof. Jackson, cash, E. Goodwin, J. W. Seymour, Esq., Isaac Hills, R. S. Seyms, J. G. Mix, E. M. Goodrich, S. Bourn, H. French, G. P. Bissell, G. F. Davis, W. W. Eaton, Esq., L. F. Robinson, Esq., W. Harris, H. Schulze, J. L. Howard, S. Skinner, H. E. Robbins & Co., T. D. & S. Boardman, H. R. Hills, E. K. Root, Dr. Sumner, E. Dorman, C. Benton, V. Cormish, Noah Wheaton, cash, each \$2; E. M. Gallaudet, H. Freeman, L. R. Brown, Ely & Co., B. Sage, A. R. Skinner, R. Gillett, J. Langdon, S. P. Kendall, S. P. Thacher, H. C. Trumbull, Prof. Stewart, W. S. White, A. Saunders, E. S. Hamilton, J. D. Alden, H. L. Bidwell, J. P. Foster, S. King, W. N. Maston, Esq., N. Hollister, P. D. Stillman, C. C. Strong, C. M. Tallcott, R. G. Drake, Esq., H. W. Katzenberg, Chas. P. Wells, cash, J. C. Walkley, Dr. Taft, J. Judd, R. M. Burdick, M. Gross, Thos. Steele, H. Ben-

ton, J. A. Butler, J. M. B. McNary, A. Gill, A. M. Gordon, E. Goodman, Esq., C. Howard, Esq., C. C. Orcutt, Z. Preston, P. B. Goodsell, H. Rockwood, P. Jewell, M. Jewell, N. J. Brockett, H. Brainard, cash, W. Savage, A. Willard, L. Stebbins, Mrs. J. B. Corning, Mrs. George Corning, Geo. W. Corning, J. H. Goodman, L. Clerc, R. H. Foster, each \$1. 974 00
Madison—E. C. Scranton, Esq., \$25; contribution in Rev. Mr. Shepherd's Church, \$18.06... 43 06
Collinsville—Miss Emily Savage. 2 00
Danielsonville—Amos D. Lockwood, Esq..... 10 00

1,029 06

NEW YORK.

Buffalo—C. R. Rennington, Esq., to constitute himself a life member of the Am. Col. Soc..... 30 00

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelpia—From the Pennsylvania Colonization Society towards colonizing thirty-one slaves left by Miss Betsey Gordon, of Orange county, Va... 1,000 00
Easton—John Dorn, Esq..... 1 00

1,001 00

MARYLAND.

Baltimore--Moses Shepperd, Esq. 100 00

ALABAMA.

By Rev. E. B. Cleghorn:—
Mobile—On account of Mobile Emigration Society, William Jones, jr., A. W. Gordon, each, \$50; M. T. Smith, Henry Stoddard & Co., each \$25; S. Coley, T. P. Miller, each \$20; W. J. Ledyard, William Stewart, Patrick & Moffat, J. E. Sanford, *Haviland, Clarke & George*, M. S. Sütson, H. O. Brewer & Co., S. Smith, D. W. Goodman, T. J. Fettyplace, W. Sayre, *Garner, Nevill & Co.*, More & Lynes, J. Y. Russell, Harrison & Robinson, each \$10; D. Chandler, C. B. Miller, R. P. Howell, W. L. Truwit, J. C. DuBose, J. N. Mott, S. H. St. John & Co., F. Stewart, F. Cluis, Marshall & Son, Barnwall & Fidler, W. Flash, D. Wheeler, F. A. Robbins, C. K. Foote, Capt. J. J. Adams, P. B. Pomeroy & Co., George Castler, G. Horton, Wykoff & Nichol, J. O. Cum-

mins, P. Brown, Sands & Co., R. A. Baker, O. Mazange, J. E. Hodge, C. W. Gazzam, J. B. Toulmine, Geo. Martin, H. L. Reynolds, J. Bell, jr. & Co., A. E. Ledyard, John Reid & Co., L. Parmly, each \$5; cash, cash, J. L. Weeks, O. Marable, each \$2.50; J. W. Holmes, cash, Mr. Rapely, each \$2; J. Bryan, \$1.....	529 50
Camden—Capt. J. A. Tait.....	20 00
Gainesville—Jonathan Bliss, \$50; D. M. Russell, \$20.....	70 00
	<hr/> 619 50

LOUISIANA.

By Rev. E. B. Cleghorn:— <i>New Orleans</i> —On account of Louisiana State Col. Society. J. Y. DeEgana, \$50; P. E. Bonford, \$5; cash \$2.....	57 00
<i>Thibodeaux</i> —A. Collins, \$20; Judge G. S. Guion, \$30.....	50 00
<i>Paincourtville</i> —Col. A Pugh, \$30; Dr. Jos. Martin, \$20; W. H. Pugh, \$10.....	60 00
	<hr/> 167 00

OHIO.

<i>Morning Sun</i> —From Miss E. Tay- lor, by Rev. G. McMillan...	50 00
--	-------

INDIANA.

<i>Covington</i> —Wm. Hoffman, Esq.	3 00
-------------------------------------	------

ILLINOIS.

<i>Jacksonville</i> —Rev. J. C. Hamil- ton, by Hon. R. Yates.....	10 00
--	-------

FOR REPOSITORY.

VERMONT.— <i>Newbury</i> —David John- son, to May, '54.....	1 00
RHODE ISLAND.—By Capt. Geo. Barker: <i>Providence</i> —Martin Bennett, to Jan., '55, \$2, Abner Gay, to January, '54, \$1.....	3 00
CONNECTICUT.— <i>Newtown</i> —Hen- ry Beers, Esq., for '53.....	1 00
NEW YORK.— <i>Jordan</i> —Hon. Alonzo Case, on account.....	5 00
NEW JERSEY.— <i>Paterson</i> —Dan- iel Ridgway, to March, '53...	1 00
PENNSYLVANIA.— <i>Philadelphia</i> — Joshua L. Baily, for '53.....	1 00
MARYLAND.— <i>Baltimore</i> —E. P. Barrows, to July, '53.....	2 00
VIRGINIA.— <i>Harmony</i> —Rev. S. A. Stanfield, to January, 1856, \$4. <i>Fredericksburgh</i> —S. G. Scott, to Feb., '54, \$1, Henry Frazar, to Feb., '54, \$1.....	6 00
GEORGIA.— <i>Augusta</i> —Robert A. Harper, to 1852.....	3 00

ALABAMA.—By Rev. E. B. Cleg- horn: <i>Montgomery</i> —J. W. Roberts, \$10, to Jan., '63, C. Pomeroy & Co., J. P. Saffold, T. H. Watts, George Cowles, W. S. Comstock, W. B. Bell, Mr. Figh, each \$5, to Jan., 1858, Charles T. Pollard, J. Whiting, each \$10, to Jan. '63, L. B. Hansford, \$2, to 1855. <i>Selma</i> —Rev. A. G. McCraw, \$2, to January, 1855, \$2. <i>Prairie Bluff</i> —Milton Ford, \$2, to Jan., '55. <i>Gainesville</i> — Doct. A. Bracket, \$10, to Jan., '63, W. P. Lay, George Rix, John McKeown, G. B. Mobley, Robert Craig, each \$5, to '58, H. L. Nevill, \$3, to 1856, John M. Soule, J. S. Roberts, each \$1, to January, 1854. <i>Livingston</i> —James Hair, \$2.50, to January, '55, Rev. G. W. Boggs, S. W. Murly, J. H. Fulton, G. W. Freeman, R. H. Smith, Esq., each \$1, to January, 1854. <i>Eutaw</i> —B. H. Ridgway, W. Creashaw, each \$5, to Jan., '58, Rev. C. A. Still- man, \$2, to Jan., '55, Wm. A. Cook, B. Rounds, Rev. J. M. Patton, J. Hope, Capt. J. C. Johnston, Wm. C. Edwards, James D. Thornton, each \$1, Jan., 1854. <i>Boligee</i> —Capt. R. T. Nott, \$1, to Jan., 1854, Wm. L. Bullock, \$2, to Jan., '55. <i>Bluff Port</i> —Col. R. Tay- lor, Geo. Morrison, each \$1, to Jan., '54.....	142 50
LOUISIANA.—By Rev. E. B. Cleg- horn: <i>Thibodeaux</i> —Walter Bennett, to Jan., '47, \$4, Mr. Campbell, for 1853, \$1. <i>Pain- courtville</i> —Doct. Jos. Ford, to Jan., '63, \$10, E. E. Malhoit, for 1852 and 1853, \$2. <i>Mans- field</i> —D. Cresswell, Esq., \$1, for 1853.....	18 00
KENTUCKY.— <i>Russellville</i> —John P. Freeman, for 1853.....	1 00
TENNESSEE.— <i>Shop Spring</i> —Jas. Carruth, to April, 1854.....	1 00
OHIO.— <i>Iberia</i> —W. Shunk, Esq., for 1853.....	1 00

Total Repository.....	180 50
Total Donations.....	2,178 56
Total Legacies.....	225 00
Aggregate Amount.....	<hr/> <hr/> \$2,584 06

For use in Library only

I-7 v.29/30
African Repository

Princeton Theological Seminary-Speer Library



1 1012 00307 1786